

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

MANUFACTURING.GOV ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2022

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Manufacturing.gov Act, H.R. 6290, a bill that would refine the Manufacturing.gov website to serve as the main source for key information regarding federal manufacturing programs.

Manufacturing.gov brings together industry, academia and federal partners within a network of advanced manufacturing institutes to increase U.S. manufacturing competitiveness and promote a robust and sustainable national manufacturing R&D infrastructure.

This legislation would specify improvements to the website to make it even more useful and valuable by requiring the inclusion of relevant contact information, opportunities for public input, and webpages focusing on topics related to the website.

Small and medium sized manufacturers are an essential part of the U.S. economy.

In Texas, they make up approximately 13 percent of output and employ just above 7 percent state's workforce.

Manufacturing companies need easy access to critical information within their industrial field to optimize their efficiency and ability to compete. To promote domestic production and provide job opportunities to hard-working Americans, these companies need real-time data on sourcing, markets, supply chains, and fulfillment.

As the U.S. elevates domestic manufacturing to a top economic priority, we must improve and update our systems to better equip these companies, and the public, with the resources they need to succeed.

This bill would establish a new section of the Manufacturing.gov website titled "Manufacturing.gov hub" to include federal manufacturing program information.

To ensure that the Manufacturing.gov hub serves the needs of the people, it is important that the public has the ability to suggest input and feedback.

Allowing the public to give feedback on the website's functionality, as well as its content, allows the site to better serve the needs of U.S. manufacturing while providing a safe, constructive environment to present concerns and solutions.

In order to support the interests of the free market, it is imperative that we make transparent the types of technologies and research that are being developed.

Texas is home to companies that manufacture a wide range of advanced and essential goods, including railcars and railways, clean energy equipment, and everyday household items such as backpacks, blankets, and towels.

Providing these companies with easily accessible sites that are dedicated to their res-

spective industries provides them with the necessary information they need to improve their production.

This bill would provide industrial sectors with accurate, up-to-date information webpages within each hub.

Finally, the Manufacturing.gov Act will utilize machine learning to highlight frequently asked questions and provide corresponding answers for such questions.

By introducing machine learning into the hub, we can refine the website to fit the needs of U.S. manufacturers.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill dedicated to bolstering the U.S. manufacturing and production industry by establishing a hub that supplies U.S. small and medium manufacturing companies with recent technological and research developments.

HONORING ANDREW "ANDY" CHESLEY FOR HIS DEDICATED PUBLIC SERVICE

HON. JERRY McNERNEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 17, 2022

Mr. McNERNEY. Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating the public service and achievements of Andrew "Andy" Chesley, who recently retired from his position as Executive Director of the San Joaquin Council of Governments, or "SJCOG," after forty one years of service.

Andy graduated from Miami University of Ohio with a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science and geography, after which he earned a master's degree in Urban and Regional Planning at the University of Iowa.

During his fifteen years as Executive Director of the SJCOG, Andy oversaw its rise to prominence among California's metropolitan planning agencies, standing alongside the Bay Area's Metropolitan Transportation Commission, the Southern California Association of Governments, the San Diego Association of Governments, and the Sacramento Area Council of Governments. Andy was responsible for the management of the SJCOG's transportation planning and other regional planning activities, including implementation of the San Joaquin County Multi-Species Habitat Conservation and Open Space Plan. He also authored and implemented San Joaquin County's "self-help" sales tax for transportation, which was passed by the county's voters, allowing vital improvements to the region's highway and passenger rail transportation system, thereby making this economically challenged region more attractive to future residents and employers.

In addition to his role at the SJCOG, Andy has been chair of the Regional Transportation Planning Agencies of California, is an officer of California's Self-Help Counties Coalition, and is a member of the Institute for Transportation Engineers, the American Planning Asso-

ciation, and the American Public Works Association. He has also been a speaker at state and national conferences of the American Planning Association, the American Society for Public Administrators, the National Association of Regional Councils, and the National Transportation Research Board.

Through changing and challenging times, Andy has provided constant and steady leadership and wise counsel to elected officials charged with managing San Joaquin County's growth and has been a leader among his planning agency peers. He has contributed his knowledge and experience to the California's Central Valley and beyond, and he has made a positive impact on our great state.

Please join me in recognizing Andrew "Andy" Chesley for his distinguished service and in wishing him well on his much-deserved retirement.

HONORING THE CAREER OF FRANK ONGARO

HON. PETE STAUBER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 17, 2022

Mr. STAUBER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Frank Ongaro's successful career of advocating for and protecting Minnesota mining, and to celebrate his well-deserved retirement after serving as the Mining Minnesota executive director for 15 years.

Frank is a born and raised Iron Ranger from Hibbing who has spent a majority of his career working in or around mining.

Starting with his grandparents, who immigrated to the United States and worked in mines, Frank and his family truly have embodied what the legacy of Iron Range mining means.

In northern Minnesota, mining is our past, present, and future, and Frank worked tirelessly every day to protect what so many of us hold near and dear to our hearts. Mining isn't just a career; it is a community that he continuously uplifted. That is why when I think of American exceptionalism, I think of Frank Ongaro.

Frank has been a champion for promoting and protecting the Iron Range every day of his career. I thank Frank for his decades of service to our communities and wish him nothing but happiness as he begins this new phase of life.

HONORING SENATOR PATRICIA TORRES RAY

HON. ILHAN OMAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 17, 2022

Ms. OMAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the distinguished 16-year career of Minnesota Senator Patricia Torres Ray.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.